



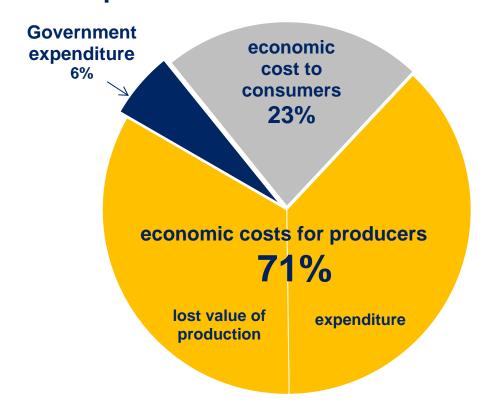
# TIME TO GET SERIOUS:

REVIEW OF WEED MANAGEMENT IN NSW

April 2014



## **Economic impacts**



Total estimated economic costs = approximately **\$1.8 billion** annually

This graph indicates % of total costs assessed which does not include value of environmental or health impacts



## What can we build upon?

- Strength of local government service delivery
  - Local relationships and knowledge, skilled staff
- Weeds Action Program
- Regional Weed Advisory Committees
- Volunteer / community work
- Biosecurity Strategy
- New LLS institutions



Mt Rogers Landcare Group managing serrated tussock; Source: Rosemary Blemings



Volunteers assist NPWS in managing Orange Hawkweed Source: NPWS – Jo Caldwell



# Where can we improve?

- Insufficient data to meaningfully assess outcomes
- Inconsistent requirements across tenure
- Inconsistent performance of Local Control Authorities
- Insufficient accountability



## Where can we improve?

- Roles and responsibilities lack clarity and resourcing is inadequate and not strategic
- Response to new incursions
- Risk management including plant and fodder trade
- Research and development



### Draft recommendations

- Reflect the differences between the management of eradicable incursions and widespread infestations
- Implement a tenure-neutral approach via regional weed committees and regional planning



### Draft recommendations: management objectives

### Prevention

- permitted list
- property weed status certificates
- registration of fodder and plant traders

### Eradication

- DPI coordinates
- high-risk incursion response fund
- long-term plans/resourcing negotiated by DPI, LLS and LCAs
- LCAs, LLS and land managers implement plans

# Landscape management

- regional weed committees prioritise widespread weeds and develop management plans (11 based on LLS boundaries)
- LLS responsible for coordination of plans
- public and private landholders comply with the plan

### Surveillance - LCAs

### General biosecurity obligation

private and public landholders, community, industry, Government



# Draft recommendations: supporting functions

Education and capacity building

DPI, LLS, LCAs, community groups

Regional planning and coordination

regional weed committee/LLS

Prioritise and coordinate research and development

Coordination of aquatic weed management LCAs/LLS

Service delivery standards and performance auditing

DPI / independent body

Compliance and enforcement LCAs/LLS State-wide data management



# **QUESTIONS?**



### Draft recommendations: proposed funding arrangements

### **Activity**

### **Proposed funding**

surveillance and capacity building

- shared between DPI and LCAs
- LCA funds transfer to LLS if responsibilities transferred

response to highrisk incursions

- high-risk incursion fund similar to pest insect destruction fund
- supported by LLS levy and government contributions

eradication

- funding for longer-term eradication negotiated between DPI, relevant LLSs and LCAs and stakeholders
- additional funds leveraged where possible

widespread weed management

- LLS/LCA funding directed according to regional plans
- LLS may raise weed specific levy
- public/private landholders meet regional plan requirements

research and development

 DPI to prioritise research and establish long-term funding strategy, leveraging additional funds where possible

